

Serial No.: 10/065,285
Attorney Docket No.: F-560

Patent

REMARKS

1. Status of Claims

Claims 1-15 were pending in the Application. Applicants have amended claims 1 and 9 without prejudice or disclaimer and added new claims 16-20. Applicants have filed a Request for Continued Examination and fee concurrently herewith. Applicants respectfully request entry of the above amendments and consideration of the enclosed remarks. Applicants submit that no new matter is added. Accordingly, claims 1-20 will remain pending in the application.

2. Telephonic Interview

Applicants' undersigned attorney appreciates the courtesy extended by Examiner Schaffer and Examiner Mancuso during the August 2, 2006 telephonic interview. Applicants have amended claims 1 and 9 as discussed and acknowledge that the Examiner stated that it will be necessary for the Examiner to determine whether another search would be required upon review. Applicants have further added new claims 16-20 to features discussed.

3. Rejections under 35 USC § 103(a)

In section 5 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 1-13 [sic, 1-15] under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly rendered obvious by U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0067854 A1 by Reintjes, et al. ("Reintjes '854") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,974,177 to Krtolica ("Krtolica '177").

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection. However, solely in order to expedite prosecution, Applicants have amended claims 1 and 9 and the rejection is moot. Regarding claims 1 and 9, Applicants respectfully submit that the cited references do not teach or suggest at least:

capturing user stroke data from a form including strokes made by a user with a pointing device by tracing over at least one form identifier character that is pre-printed on the form ...

Serial No.: 10/065,285
Attorney Docket No.: F-560

Patent

processing the form input data using the form template, wherein the at least one form identifier character includes a plurality of distinct characters from a character set.

Furthermore, regarding claims 3 and 11, Applicants respectfully submit that the cited references do not teach or suggest:

processing a pre-determined portion of the stroke data corresponding to at least one control string character to determine the form identification data; and receiving user pen stroke data from at least one data field of the form before processing the strokes in order to determine the form identification data.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejection to claims 1-15.

4. New Claims

Applicants respectfully submit that the new dependent claims 16-20 are patentable over the cited art for at least the reasons stated above with reference to the respective independent claims.

The cited art does not teach or suggest:

"the character set is the alpha-numeric character set."

The cited art does not teach or suggest:

"processing the strokes in order to determine a unique instance data identifier for the particular form."

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 16-20 are in condition for allowance.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejection and submit that the invention as presently claimed in claims 1-20 is patentable and in condition for allowance.

Serial No.: 10/065,285
Attorney Docket No.: F-560

Patent

5. Conclusion Of Remarks

For at least the reasons stated above, it is respectfully submitted that the claims of this application are in condition for allowance and early and favorable action thereon is requested.

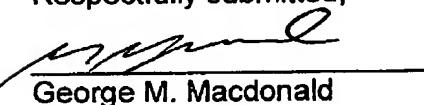
If the Examiner believes that additional issues may be resolved by a telephone interview, the Examiner is respectfully urged to telephone the undersigned attorney for Applicant at (203) 924-3180.

6. Authorization

No fee is believed due with this Amendment other than that associated with the enclosed petition for extension of time to respond. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for the response or credit any overpayment to the Pitney Bowes, Inc. Deposit Account Number 16-1885, Order No. F-560.

In the event that an extension of time or additional extension of time is required to make this response timely filed, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to make this response timely. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to the Pitney Bowes, Inc. Deposit Account Number 16-1885, Order No. F-560.

Respectfully submitted,


George M. Macdonald
Reg. No. 39,284
Attorney of Record
Telephone (203) 924-3180

PITNEY BOWES INC.
Intellectual Property and Technology Law Department
35 Waterview Drive, P.O. Box 3000
Shelton, CT 06484-8000